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that these trout were placed in Feather River by Mr. Pratt, for whom the town of Prattsville is named.

In the Blue Lakes of Amador County are also found trout transported across the Sierras from tributaries of Lake Tahoe.

In the streams running down the east slope of Mt. Whitney about Lone Pine are found the golden trout of Mt. Whitney, *Salmo aguanbonita*. These were transported by local anglers from Volcano Creek, the isolated mountain stream above Agua-bonita Falls, in which the peculiar form or subspecies has been developed.

This summer Rev. Edwin Sidney Williams, of Saratoga, Cal., transferred twenty young trout, the species not indicated, and a dozen chubs from Pelican Bay on Klamath Lake into the famous Crater Lake of Oregon, an extraordinary body of water without inlet or outlet and, I believe, hitherto without fish life. D. S. J.

**An Error Corrected.** — In Jordan and Evermann's *Fishes of North America* the generic diagnoses of *Collettia* and *Aethoprora* have been by some unaccountable accident interchanged. It is *Aethoprora* which has a luminous gland on the front of the head "like the headlight of an engine."

In the same family of Myctophidæ, *Neoscopelus macrolepidotus* Johnson, dredged by the *Blake* in the West Indies, was omitted by oversight. This genus, with *Scopelengys*, should apparently form a distinct family, *Neoscopelidæ*, distinguished by the broad maxillary with supplemental bone.

D. S. J.

**Notes on Recent Fish Literature.** — In the *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, Mr. Henry W. Fowler gives an account of the fishes from the Caroline Islands presented to the Academy by Professor Cope. Forty-five species are enumerated, the following new: *Cypsilurus quindecimradiatus*, *Thalassoma immanis*, *Scarus pronus*, *Scarus lupus*. These are illustrated by accurate but rather coarsely engraved plates.

Mr. Fowler gives an account of the typical specimens of *Ameiurus prosthistiis* described by Professor Cope from Batsto River, New Jersey. This is regarded by Jordan and Evermann as a synonym of the Florida species of catfish, *Ameiurus erebennus*. But Mr. Fowler's account leaves little doubt of its specific distinctness.

I venture to say that other species in this group will prove to be valid. Especially is it likely that the short-bodied type, called *Ameiurus natalis*, will prove distinct from the common form which has been called *Ameiurus lividus*.

Mr. Fowler redescribes the great catfish of the Florida Everglades, which has been named *Ictalurus okeechobensis* by Heilprin. He regards it as a subspecies of *Ameiurus lacustris*, but until these great catfishes have been fully studied, it seems as well to regard this, with Jordan and Evermann, as a distinct species.

Dr. Einar Lönnberg, in the *Annuaire* of the Zoölogical Museum of St. Petersburg, gives an account of the discovery by Dr. G. Adlerz of the Opah, *Lampris luna*, on the coast of Murman in Russia. This great pelagic fish is occasionally taken on almost every coast in the world, especially in the northern hemisphere (Nova Scotia, Maine, California, Japan, Madeira, etc.). Dr. Lönnberg adopts the earlier name, *Lampris pelagicus* (*Scomber pelagicus* Gunner, 1768), instead of *L. luna* (1788). But there was already, in 1766, a *Scomber pelagicus* of Linnæus, supposed to be the same as *Coryphæna hippurus*, and the name given by Gunner was preoccupied.

In the *Transactions of the Connecticut Academy*, Vol. X, 1900, Mr. Garman describes three fishes from Bailey Bay, Bermuda Islands, collected by the Yale expedition of 1898. One of these, *Brosomphycis verrilli*, is described as new. This belongs to the section or genus *Ogilbia* of Jordan and Evermann. *Gobius stigmaturus* is also recorded from Bailey Bay. The original type was from unknown locality, but Jordan and Evermann record the species from Key West.

Dr. Einar Lönnberg writes in the acts of the Swedish Academy of the Saibling of "Bären" Island, as collected by J. G. Andersson. To this form he gives the name of *Salmo umbla* var. *salvelino-insularis*.

In the *Bulletin of the U. S. Fish Commission* Professor J. P. Gorman describes the "gas-bubble disease" of fishes in aquaria. He finds it due to the expansion of gases from the reduction of pressure in removing fishes from deeper waters.

Under the title of "Les Pêches du Hokkaido," the Japanese Fisheries Bureau gives an interesting statistical account of the great salmon and herring fishes of the island of Hokkaido (called Yezo on our maps, but no longer bearing that name in Japan).

Dr. Seth E. Meek has published in the records of the Field Columbian Museum an account of the species of *Eupomotis*, the group which includes the common brook sunfish. *Eupomotis longimanus* is recognized as probably a valid species.

In a well-printed and finely illustrated volume published by Appleton, Eugene McCarthy tells of the familiar fishes of the rivers of the United States, their habits and the way to catch them. Mr. McCarthy writes best of the phases and places of angling most familiar to him, his first interest being in the Ouananiche or land-locked salmon of Lake St. John. To this useful book a preface has been written by Dr. Jordan.

D. S. J.

**North-American Reptiles.** — The annual report of the Smithsonian Institution for the year ending June 30, 1898, contains, in addition to a report on the present condition of the United States National Museum, a monograph on the crocodilians, lizards, and snakes of North America, by the late Professor Cope. This noteworthy contribution covers some 1120 pages of text, and is illustrated by 347 groups of text-figures and by 36 plates. It is provided with a separate index. After a brief introduction the groups and subgroups of reptiles are defined and their phylogenetic relations discussed. This is followed by a series of excellent descriptions of the species of crocodilians, lizards, and snakes found in North America. The account is accompanied by keys for the determination of species and by tables illustrating geographical distribution. Considerable attention is devoted to the comparative anatomy of parts important from a systematic standpoint, and these are well illustrated by clear but simple figures which fill most of the plates. The account is concluded by a discussion of the geographical distribution of reptiles, particularly in their relation to the North-American fauna.

This work, in connection with the forthcoming volume by the late Dr. Baur on turtles, and Cope's former monograph on the Batrachia of North America, will place North-American herpetology next to our ornithology in compactness and completeness of its systematic treatment.

P.

**Porcupine Quills.** — The arrangement of the quills and woolly hairs on the eastern porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatus*) has been carefully described by Loweg.<sup>1</sup> In an embryo 18 cm. long the integument of the dorsal and lateral aspects of the body was covered with short transverse rows of developing quills. Each row was composed of some nine quills, the middle ones being longer than those

<sup>1</sup> Loweg, T. Studien über das Integument des *Erethizon dorsatus*, *Jena. Zeitschr. f. Naturwiss.*, Bd. xxxiv (1900), pp. 833-866, Taf. XXVII, XXVIII.